

Year 3 Spring Art Knowledge Organiser

Cave Painting.

Key People, Places and Dates – Cave Painting

Most cave paintings were of animals or hunters. A cave could be full of many paintings by many different painters. Many hand stencils have also been discovered. They used natural colours from mineral pigments. Some of the most impressive cave paintings have only been found in the last 100 years.

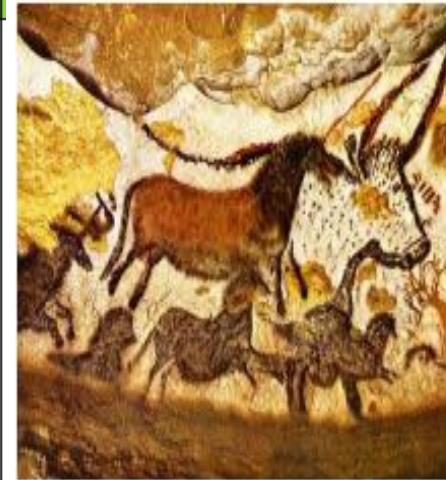
Cave of Altamira: dating from Neolithic period, discovered in 1880 in Spain. The carbon dioxide breathed out by visitors, eager to see the cave paintings caused damage to the paintings and the caves were closed. They created a replica for visitors.

Lascaux Cave: located in France, discovered by children in 1940.

Magura Cave: dating from Neolithic period, located in north-western Bulgaria. Bones from different prehistoric species of bears and hyenas discovered.

Chauvet Cave: located in Southern France. In addition to paintings and other human evidence, the three speleologists (scientists who study caves) who first explored it discovered fossilised remains, prints, and markings from a variety of animals, some of which are now extinct.

Cuevas de las Manos (Cave of the Hands) in Argentina: Cave paintings around the world often include hand stencils, impressions left by blowing paint around a hand.



Cave paintings - Early humans may have used art as a way of helping themselves in their struggle for survival. Paintings of animals on cave walls are common. The famous cave paintings at Lascaux in southwest France are about 18,000 years old.

Key Vocabulary and Important Facts

- Draw, sketch, shade, render, shadow, mid-tone, highlight
- Most **pencils** using the HB system are labelled by a number such as 2B, 4B or 2H to indicate the degree of hardness. The harder the lead the lighter the mark, the softer the lead the darker the mark e.g. a 4B would be softer/darker than a 2B and a 3H harder/lighter than an H.
- Make sure your pencil is sharp.
- Make sure you gradually make the work darker, you can always add shade but it is hard to make a piece lighter.
- Adjust the pressure you use the pencil with to make darker marks.
- Contour drawing – the French word **contour meaning**, “outline.”
- Stippling (dots)
- Wavy/corrugated lines
- Dashes/short lines
- Hatching /Cross hatching
- Scribbles
- Blending – Use your fingers as tools
- Chiaroscuro/Tonal blending – using strong contrasts between light and dark to achieve a sense of volume in modelling three-dimensional objects.



Cueva de las Manos, Perito Moreno, Argentina. The art in the cave is dated between 13,000–9,000 BP, stenciled, mostly left hands are shown.



Rock paintings from the Cave of Beasts (Gif Kebir, Libyan Desert)
Estimated 7000 BP